

ROCKLAND FINANCE COMMITTEE
ROCKLAND TOWN HALL
ROCKLAND, MA 02370

October 14, 2009

In attendance at the October 14, 2009 Finance Committee meeting were Bill Allen, Rachel Gear, Joe Gambon, Bob MacDonald, Rich Penney, John Ellard and Paula Ferguson

The Chairman, John Ellard, called the meeting to order at 6:33.

A motion was made by Bill Allen and seconded by Joe Gambon to accept the minutes of the September 9, 2009 meeting. A unanimous vote was taken.

There was no Correspondence to review.

There was no Old Business.

Under New Business: The budgets that the town accountant had were distributed and looked over. We only received the budgets from the following departments: Town Accountant, Town Clerk, Zoning Board, Police Department, Fire Department, Building Department, Highway Department, Council On Aging, Youth Commission, Water Department, Sewer Department, Waste Collection, Board of Health, Visiting Nurse, Library, Veteran's Services, Celebrations, Park Department. Back up for salary amounts are due from each department.

A motion by Bob MacDonald and seconded by Rich Penney for the Finance Committee Budget of \$36,000. \$1000 for the secretary salary and \$35,000 for the reserve fund. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Council of Aging, Library, Park, Youth Commission and Visiting Nurse submitted budgets with 2 ½ % increases due to the over-ride vote. According to the over-ride, these budgets can increase 2 ½% each year. Discussion was made about if the state ever has a windfall of money, that if other departments are able to receive additional funding, the 5 above departments will only get their 2 1/2% increase.

Report was given by Rich Penney regarding the new Middle School and renovated High School. There will be an informational meeting on Tuesday, October 20 at the auditorium. Town meeting is November 3 and town election is November 14. The schedule is moved up for the project in order to get it out to bid as soon as possible before other schools have their bids out. They are hoping to use Construction Manager At Risk which will give us additional reimbursement from the state. The construction company works with the architect and project manager together to complete the project. The contractor will take the risk if the project goes over cost but will make more money if completed early. The state limits who can bid on this project. The MSBA approves the subcontractors, not the town. If all goes according to planned, ground breaking could be June or July of 2010.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, October 21 beginning at 6:30 in the lower conference room.

Bob MacDonald made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Rachel Gear. A unanimous vote was taken and the meeting ended at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula Ferguson
Secretary
Rockland Finance Committee